

Salem Lutheran Church

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SEPTEMBER 27, 2020 ~ 17TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Jesus' parable about two sons who don't do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God. In the reading from Ezekiel the people claim the ways of the Lord are unfair, while God offers repentance and new life. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, putting the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy world.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN

Dearest Jesus, At Your Word

ELW 520 verses 1 & 4

Dearest Jesus, at your word
we have come again to hear you;
let our thoughts and hearts be stirred
and in glowing faith be near you
as the promises here given
draw us wholly up to heaven.

Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
praise to you and adoration!
Grant us what we need the most:
all your gospel's consolation
while we here on earth await you,
till in heav'n with praise we greet you.

Text: Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619–1684, sts. 1–3; Gesangbuch, Berlin, 1707, st. 4; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, adapt.
Music: Johann R. Ahle, 1625–1673

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you. **All: And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

WORD

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

PSALM 25:1-9

To you, O LORD,
I lift up my soul.
My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.
Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.
Show me your ways, O LORD,
and teach me your paths.
Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.
Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.
Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.
You are gracious and upright, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.
You lead the lowly in justice
and teach the lowly your way.

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:1-13

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Spoken together*

Alleluia. My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord; I know them and they follow me. *Alleluia.* (John 10:27)

GOSPEL: Matthew 21:23-32

After driving the moneychangers out of the temple (21:12), Jesus begins teaching there. His authority is questioned by the religious leaders, who are supposed to be in charge of the temple.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 21st chapter. **ALL: Glory to you, O Lord**

²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?"

²⁴Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' ²⁶But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

P: The Gospel of the Lord given to you. **ALL: Praise to you O Christ.**

MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

Change my Heart, O God

ELW 801 sing twice

Change my heart, O God;

make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God;
may I be like you.
You are the potter;
I am the clay.
Mold me and make me;
this is what I pray.
Change my heart, O God;
make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God;
may I be like you.

Text: Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953

Music: Eddie Espinosa

Text and music © 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing, admin. Music Services

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy
Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. All: **And also with you.**

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen**

SENDING

BLESSING

Loving God,
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

Voices Raised to You

ELW 845 verses 1 & 5

Voices raised to you we offer;
tune them, God, for songs of praise.
Hearts and hands we bring in tribute
for your gifts through all our days.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Triune God, to you we sing!

How can any praise we offer
measure all the thanks we owe?
Take our hearts and hands and voices—
gifts of love we can bestow.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Triune God, to you we sing!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923
Music: Carolyn Jennings, b. 1936
Text © 1997 GIA Publications, Inc.
Music © 1996 Carolyn Jennings

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor. **ALL: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

++++++ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRAYER LIST++++++

A Special Thank you to Jean Weimer and Nick Cox for providing vocal accompaniment with our hymns today!
And, thank you, to Carol Temple as the lector for this day!

Thank you for continuing to support the ministries of our congregation during these unprecedented times. As it becomes clear that we're in this phase for a longer haul, we want to say a particular thanks for your faith, your generosity, and your perseverance. Your faithful stewardship of all God's gifts is the heart of disciple-making and neighbor-loving.

Outdoor Evening Service with Holy Communion is scheduled for October 4th. Please mark your calendars to arrive by 5:00PM with service beginning at 5:15PM.

OBD Casseroles will be picked up on Wednesday, October 21st at 12 Noon. Thank you for caring for the less fortunate and your generosity.

Salem's Annual Craft Fair and Yard Sale is postponed this year due to concerns with the coronavirus.

Ongoing Prayer Concerns: Mike, Thelma Preisinger, Brenda Baker, Family and Friends of Dan Hess, Kimberley, Donna Glorioso, Family and Friends of Carolyn Whelan, Family and Friends of Lee Hoos, John Bragg, Barb Vogel, Jenny, Jenny's mom and sister Donna, Norma Knudsen, Anne Mills, Rachel's baby girl Diana, Capt'n Jim McMahan, Pr. Dick Kiesling, Karen, Donna Miller, Laura Riley, Judy Newsome, Phil Kulinski, Bruce Greer, Debbie McDonald, Michelle Harshman, Lisa Barwick, Dorothy Portera, Nick Carmichael, Walt Karoll, Sandy Barthel, Marianna Putnam, Dawn Weaver, Joan Burleigh, Donald Rembert, Thelma Preisinger, Steve Sussan, Betty Burnet, Carrie Claus, Dorothy Long, Bailey Law, Pr. Myers, Maurice Grove, Nancy Roschli, Margaret and Jerry Shank, Jim McNicholas, Aunt Marie, Joan Evans, Steve Norman, Austin Phoebus, Joan & John Kusick, Robin Sealover, Kaidyn Jamison, Lennard Beecher, Jumela Beecher, Seth Bates, Steve White, Margret Krebbal, Frank Gailitz, Dan Gnau, Paula Feldman, Dolly Suiratt, Talu Elvove Arikan, Jim Bair, Craig Perry Beel, Joyce Craig, Aston Dean, Kattie Hale, Carolyn Lynch, Ray Morrison, Nicole Phelps, Kim Scott, Natalie Szparza, Pat Ward, Curtis Waters, Jason Whitney, Karen Wiley, Nick Wingate, and Jeanie Z., Will & Bernadine Boyce, Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Bishop Bill Gohl.

Please contact Lynn Cox or Pastor with updates concerning the prayer list.

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